



**City of Blairsville, GA**  
**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting**  
**January 4, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**Blairsville City Hall**  
**62 Blue Ridge Street, Blairsville, GA 30512**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor Jim Conley  
Councilmember Rhonda Mahan  
Councilmember Robert Moore  
Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook  
Councilmember Kayla Hemphill

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Joan Mannheim, City Hall  
Michael Baxter, Police Dept.  
Jody Cook, WWTP  
Aaron Mannheim, Airport  
Curtis Corn, WS  
Danny Dillard, WTP  
Darren Harper, DDA

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Marvin Harkins, City Attorney  
Mark Smith, North Georgia News  
Steve Rowe, BUCCC President  
Pat Malone, WJRB  
Danny Duello, Rotary  
Bob Ramay, Rotary  
Mitch Griggs, UC Development Authority  
Charlie Cattanaach  
Carol Krone  
Scott Carter  
Frank Pack  
Josh Davis

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Invocation was led by Steve Rowe and pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Robert Moore.

Call Meeting to Order: Mayor Conley called the meeting to order 6:02 p.m.

Administer Oath of Office: City Attorney Marvin Harkins administered the Oath of Office for the 2022-2025 term to Mayor Jim Conley and Councilmember Robert Moore.

Approve Proposed Agenda: Motion was made by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a unanimous vote to approve the proposed agenda.

Dispense reading and approve minutes:

1. Motion was made by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook, seconded by Councilmember Kayla Hemphill with a unanimous vote to dispense reading of and approve minutes from the 12/7/2021 regular council meeting.

Public Hearing:

2. Mayor Conley called public hearing and 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance No. 2022-01 to change regular Council meeting day to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. With no public comment and no comment from the Council, Mayor Conley closed public hearing.

Public Comments:

None

Unfinished Business:

3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 2021-04 to amend Water/Sewer Ordinance to include sewer-only service. Motion was made by Councilmember Kayla Hemphill, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a unanimous vote to approve Ordinance No. 2021-04.

New Business:

4. Motion was made by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a unanimous vote to appoint Marvin Harkins as the City Attorney for 2022.
5. Motion was made by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a unanimous vote to appoint Kaye McCann as City Clerk for 2022.

6. Mayor Conley recommended the following appointments for 2022:

- Airport - Councilmember Robert Moore
- Police - Councilmember Tony Dyer
- Streets - Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook
- Water/Sewer - Councilmember Kayla Hemphill
- Blairsville DDA Board - Councilmember Rhonda Mahan
- Union County Historical Society - Mayor Jim Conley
- Mayor Pro Tempore - Councilmember Robert Moore

Motion was made by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan, seconded by Mary Ruth Cook with a unanimous vote to approve all other appointments as recommended by Mayor Conley for 2022.

7. Bob Ramay and Daniel Duello of the Rotary Club proposed a Community Park/Greenspace in the area behind City Hall. With a budget of \$4500 and local organizations donating time, the space will include picnic benches and walking trails.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook, seconded by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan with a unanimous vote to approve Community Park

8. Steve Rowe, BUCCC President, reported on upcoming events in January and February, including Chamber Awards Night, Eggs & Issues and Evening with the Stars

9. Jody Cook reported the plant is running fine and waiting on a valve to complete some repairs.

Danny Dillard reported the plant is running fine and waiting on new equipment to arrive soon.

Curtis Corn reported all is going well and the Christmas lights are coming down.

Aaron Mannheim reported the part-time employee is a fast learner and all is going well.

Michael Baxter reported 1350 calls for service during 2021, with most crimes being solved. Also reported on the continuing success of Shop With A Cop; 127 kids and 56 families.

Darren Harper reported the upcoming planning session with the downtown merchants. The DDA needs to appoint new board members and information is available for anyone interested.

10. City Attorney Marvin Harkins reported the documents with Coosa Water Authority are complete and are waiting for execution.

11. Motion was made by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Kayla Hemphill with a unanimous vote to approve the 2022 Intergovernmental Agreements with Blairsville DDA, Blairsville/Union County Chamber of Commerce and Union County Historical Society for hotel/motel tax distribution.

12. Motion was made by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a unanimous vote to approve Resolution 2022-02 to renew existing multi-year contracts. Exhibit A.

13. Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan with a unanimous vote to approve annual contribution to Union County Public Library in the amount of \$9,000.

14. Motion was made by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a unanimous vote to approve part-time airport employee John Page at \$14 per hour.

15. Motion was made by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan, seconded by Kayla Hemphill with a unanimous vote to approve the purchase of shoring boxes for W/S to be paid from SPLOST V in the amount of \$16,014.60 offset by \$6,700 Safety Grant.

16. A discussion regarding elected officials insurance reimbursement in which City Attorney Marvin Harkins agreed to could be done through an ordinance as the City already provides insurance benefit for employees; the City can provide for the elected officials. The specific language of the ordinance falls on the Mayor and Councilmembers.

Consent Agenda:

17. Motion was made by Councilmember Kayla Hemphill, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a unanimous vote to approve the following consent agenda items:
- o Occupational Tax Certificate & Sign Permit - Pizza Belly LLC; 53 Merchants Walk, Suite A; Matt Leonard, Owner - new restaurant.
  - o Occupation Tax Certificate & Sign Permit - Nottley Marine Inc.; 40 Town Square, Suite D; Tiffany Mariah Doucette, Owner - marina office.
  - o Occupational Tax Certificate - AKA 7IH LLC, dba McDonalds; 19 Murphy Highway; Kate Lima-Rapps, owner - new ownership.

Executive Session:

18. Motion was made by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Kayla Hemphill with a roll call - Councilmember Rhonda Mahan-here; Councilmember Kayla Hemphill-here; Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook-here; Councilmember Robert Moore-here - to enter executive session for matters related to personnel.
19. Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan with a roll call - Councilmember Rhonda Mahan-here; Councilmember Kayla Hemphill-here; Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook-here; Councilmember Robert Moore-here - to exit executive session. Exhibit B

Additional Business:

20. Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a unanimous vote to authorize Mayor Conley to terminate employee discussed during executive session.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan with a unanimous vote to adjourn. 7:20 pm

  
Joan Mannheim, Accounting Clerk

2/8/2022  
Approved by City Council